

## **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT & REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

### **I. EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT:**

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the Issue Fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Paul E. Lewkowicz (Reg. No. 44, 870) on 06/12/2008.

**The application has been amended as follows:**

**In the Claims:**

**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:**

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently amended) The ~~computer-readable medium~~ computer of claim 10, wherein said computer program further ~~comprising~~ comprises computer instructions for editing logic units.

3. (Currently amended) The ~~computer-readable medium~~ computer of claim 10, wherein said ~~logic units~~ computer program further ~~comprise~~ comprises:

a testing means to analyze ~~zero~~ one or more environmental variables, programmatic states, and stored data elements to form a result;

an execution means to trigger execution of said testing means before or after ~~zero~~ one or more programmatic events; and

a set of ~~zero~~ one or more actions that will run in a prescribed order for each of said testing means results.

4. (Currently amended) The ~~computer-readable medium~~ computer of claim 3, wherein said execution means control said computer program, including one or more of the sequencing, wording, response options, and branching to other said questionnaires.

5. (Currently amended) The ~~computer-readable medium~~ computer of claim 3, wherein said actions further comprise altering means to modify said logic units, whereby the functionality of said logic units can be altered for a subset of said users.

6. (Currently amended) The ~~computer-readable medium~~ computer of claim 5, wherein said ~~logic units~~ computer program further ~~comprise~~ comprises blocking means to lock one or more of said logic units from modification by other logic units.

7. (Currently amended) The ~~computer-readable medium~~ computer of claim 6, wherein said blocking means further comprise conditional means to lock only a subset of said other logic units from modifying a logic unit.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently amended) The ~~computer-readable medium~~ computer of claim 10, wherein the computer program further ~~comprising~~ comprises computer instructions for policing obsolete logic units that have been blocked from execution by previously loaded logic units.

10. (Currently Amended) A ~~computer-readable medium storing~~ computer tangibly embodying a computer program for individually tailoring computerized questionnaire administration executable by a plurality of computers, the computer program comprising computer instructions for:

Art Unit: 2176

providing a data collection interface to a plurality of users;  
storing ~~and executing zero~~ one or more predetermined logic units;  
storing ~~and executing zero~~ one or more user defined logic units;  
loading said predetermined logic units and said user defined logic units in  
a prescribed order; and  
defining and tracking said users, said user defined logic units, and each of  
said user's hierarchical relationship to other said users,  
whereby said computer instructions for loading first loads hierarchically superior  
user defined logic units before loading other user defined logic units and ensures  
that superior user defined logic units are executed first~~[[,]]~~,  
whereby the administration of said questions in a questionnaire is altered ~~based~~  
~~on said execution of~~ by executing said loaded predetermined logic units and/or  
said loaded user defined logic units, and  
whereby said questionnaire is customized in real time so that ~~each said user~~  
~~can request the same questionnaire, but be administered different sets of~~  
~~questions based on said user's answers, when two or more users of said plurality~~  
of users request said questionnaire, each of said two or more users are  
administered different questions based on answers submitted by said two or  
more users.

11. (Canceled)

**II. REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE:**

Claims 2-7, 9, and 10 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art does not expressly teach or render obvious the invention as recited in independent claim 10.

The features *"defining and tracking the users, the user defined logic units, and each of the user's hierarchical relationship to other the users, and whereby the questionnaire is customized in real time so that, when two or more users of the plurality of users request the questionnaire, each of the two or more users are administered different questions based on answers submitted by the two or more users"* when taken in the context of the claims as a whole, was not uncovered in the prior art teachings.

Dependent claims are allowed as they depend upon allowable independent claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

accompany the Issue Fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled  
"Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### **Contact information**

- IV. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Maikhanh Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-4093. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 9:00am – 30 pm. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Doug Hutton can be reached at (571) 272-4137.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Art Unit: 2176

/Maikhanh Nguyen/

Examiner, Art Unit 2176

*/Doug Hutton/*

Doug Hutton

Supervisory Primary Examiner

Technology Center 2100